

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2732

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

S E C R E T LUSAKA 0230

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, AO, CH, UR, ZA

SUBJECT: CHINESE THOUGHTS THROUGH ZAMBIAN LIPS

REF: LUSAKA 0186

1. PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER MARK CHONA, WHO HAS GREAT RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR THE CHINESE AND MAINTAINS CLOSE CONTACTS WITH THEM IN LUSAKA, PROVIDED SOME INTERESTING INSIGHTS ON CURRENT CHINESE THINKING RE SOVIET STRATEGY IN ANGOLA AND EUROPE.

2. ACCORDING CHONA, CHINESE ATTITUDE ON ANGOLA SOMEWHAT AMBIVALENT. WHILE CHINESE HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM ASSISTING LIBERATION MOVEMENTS THERE MORE OR LESS FOR GOOD (REFTEL), THEY HAVE KEEN INTEREST IN WESTERN INVOLVEMENT TO DATE; IN FACT, CHINESE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE WEST DO MORE. CHINESE ALSO BELIEVE SOVIETS ARE BOUND WITHIN FIVE YEARS "TO BURN THEIR FINGERS IN ANGOLA" BECAUSE OF INEVITABLE DISAGREEMENTS WHICH WOULD ARISE WITH THEIR MPLA CLIENTS IF LATTER HOLD ON THAT LONG. CHINESE DO NOT RPT NOT SEE SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN ANGOLA AS UNDERTAKEN TO COMPETE WITH CHINESE SUCCESSES IN AFRICA; RATHER, AS PART OF SOVIETS' GENERAL IMPERIALISTIC AND EXPANSIONIST POLICY AND THEIR PROBING HERE AND THERE TO TEST THE WEST. CHINESE, CHONA CONTINUED, SEE SOVIETS AS GIVING IMPRESSION TO WORLD OF THREATENING CHINA DIRECTLY BUT IN

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REALITY THEY CONSIDER THIS IS ONLY DIVERSIONARY TACTIC TO DISTRACT

ATTENTION FROM SOVIET AMBILITIONS IN WESTERN EUROPE WHICH IS
PRIMARY SOVIET TARGET FOR EXPANSION OF SOVIET SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.
WILKOWSKI

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